

APPENDICITE ET PÉRITYPHLITE. By CHARLES TALAMON, Medecin de l'Hôpital Tenon. 248 pages. Paris: Rueff et Cie, 1892.

APPENDICITIS AND PERITYPHLITIS.

THIS little volume, belonging to the Charcot-Debove collection, presents in a clear and accurate form the facts, past and present, connected with the important question of inflammations in the right iliac region. The historical portion is exceedingly interesting, and this interest grows as the developments of science gradually discard old notions of typhlitis and perityphlitis for the actual appendicitis which characterizes the vast majority of these cases. Full credit is given throughout the work to the part taken by American authors in our present knowledge of these conditions. The action of bacteria in abscess formation has been well brought out. Although there is nothing absolutely new in this work, still it presents the most comprehensive and up-to-date exposition of one of the most important subjects in surgical pathology and therapeutics, giving at once the views now held by the best authorities in Europe and America, which would otherwise take much time to gather from monographs. We would heartily advise the perusal of this book by those who believe that this protean affection demands all the judgment and surgical knowledge possible for its successful treatment. E. L.

TRAITEMENT DE PLEURÉSIES PURULENTES. BY G. M. DEBOVE et M. COURTOIS-SUFFIT. 228 pages. Paris: Rueff et Cie, 1892.

THE TREATMENT OF EMPYEMA.

THE present volume belongs to the same series as the preceding. It treats of empyema in three parts: 1st, "Historical," from Hippocrates to Estlander; 2d, "Methods of Operating;" 3d, the "Indications" which would call for the adoption of each particular one of these methods. The first part seems to ignore almost entirely the work done by German, English, and American authors in the progress of our knowledge of this affection. The second part tells us in a concise manner the use of the aspirator, and describes fully Estlander's operation for obliteration of the pleura. The third part is interesting, as it establishes a difference in the operative treatment according as the empyema is found by bacteriological examination to be due to the pneumococcus or to the various streptococci of suppuration. The book is an interesting monograph, which will repay anyone for reading it. E. L.

ON HARE-LIP AND CLEFT PALATE. BY WILLIAM ROSE, M.B., B.S. LOND., Professor of Surgery in King's College. London: H. K. Lewis, 1892.

THE author of this book has enjoyed great opportunities for a study of the allied deformities of which it treats, both as an assistant to the late Sir William Fergusson and in his own independent fields of labor. After an introduction dealing with general considerations, the occurrence of hare-lip and cleft palate in animals, their associated deformities,

etc., we find an excellent chapter on the anatomy and physiology of the normal palate, in which is emphasized a now recognized fact—"the frequent association of inherited mental and nervous weakness with a high arched palate."

The chapter on development is from the pen of Mr. Carless, and is one of the best expositions of the subject with which we are acquainted. After some observations, anatomical and physiological, on hare-lip and cleft palate, the author takes up the operative treatment of hare-lip. In this we find a discussion of the question as to what age constitutes the best period for operation. Mr. Rose says that the immediate operation (within two or three weeks after birth) shows a considerable mortality, while the early operation, which is done in the period from the fourth week to the third month, is entirely safe. In a series of between three hundred and four hundred cases, treated by operation between the fourth and eighth week, not one death happened as an immediate result.

In his operation the author insists on the great importance of separating the lip from the maxillæ. He freshens the edges of the cleft by a modification of the well-known method of Stokes. He sutures first with silver wire, and then obtains a finer approximation with catgut, closing carefully with this latter material both mucous and cutaneous edges.

The article on "Cleft Palate" is of great practical value, and sets forth thoroughly all the details of operation upon, and care, anæsthesia, and after-treatment of these most difficult cases.

It may be truthfully said that this book of Mr. Rose embodies the results of a vast experience, and that it combines scientific accuracy, correct observation, and lucid and practical exposition in a most unusual degree. We cannot pay it a higher compliment than to affirm that it is entirely worthy of the reputation of the distinguished professor of surgery in King's College.

J. C. D.

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CARDIAC OUTLINES FOR CLINICAL CLERKS AND PRACTITIONERS, AND FIRST PRINCIPLES IN THE PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF THE HEART FOR THE BEGINNER. BY WILLIAM EWART, M.D. CANTAB., F.R.C.P., Physician to St. George's Hospital, etc. With sixty-two illustrations. 8vo., pp. x., 165. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1892.

SINCE to fully appreciate the histological changes taking place in any organ in a state of disease it is essential that we be familiar with the structure of the organ in health, so is it none the less important to be familiar with the normal anatomical relations of an organ in order to recognize with precision any deviation from those normal relations caused by disease. It is with this idea in view that the author devotes the first portion of his book to a recital of anatomical facts, setting forth the relations of the heart to the surrounding structures and the tracing of the normal cardiac outline upon the surface of the thorax. The author has accompanied each step in the process by a graphic diagram which tends greatly to elucidate the text.

In discussing the method of cardiac percussion the author lays down some familiar, but useful, rules. In this section it is somewhat sur-